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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, July 19, 2004, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, JULY 16, 2004

The Senate met at 10:01 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ELIZABETH DOLE, a Senator from the State of North Carolina.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

O God who brings unity from division and order from chaos, the Earth belongs to You and the universe is Your throne.

With one voice we offer You praise and thanksgiving. Empower people everywhere to seek and find You.

Sustain the Members of our Nation's legislative branch with Your presence and wisdom. Guide them on the safe road that they may be instruments of Your glory. Help them to restrain the wrong and encourage the good in a world challenged by evil.

Bless our military and all who fight for freedom. Comfort those who mourn.

We give thanks to You today, our Maker, Nourisher, Guardian, Governor, Healer, Benefactor, and Protector.

Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable ELIZABETH DOLE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President protempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE, Washington, DC, July 16, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ELIZABETH DOLE, a Senator from the State of North Carolina, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS, President pro tempore.

Mrs. DOLE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today, we will be in a period of morning business. Last night, we were able to complete our work on the Australia Free Trade Agreement. We also finished the process for sending the JOBS bill, FSC/ETI bill, to conference; therefore, we will have no rollcall votes today.

I do not anticipate a long session today, but several colleagues have asked that we be in morning business so that they have an opportunity to discuss certain issues.

We have one piece of business on the Executive Calendar. We have tried to reach a time agreement on the judicial

nomination of William Myers to be a U.S. circuit judge for the Ninth Circuit. It appears unlikely that the other side will agree to a time limitation, and, therefore, I intend to file cloture on that nomination today. That vote will occur sometime early Tuesday afternoon at a time to be determined, which we will set certainly before the close of today's business.

AIDS IN AFRICA

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President. I want to briefly comment on a headline from an article from the U.K. Daily Independent. It could have been really from any periodical, but the headline says, "AIDS reduces African life expectancy to 33." That is 33 years of age. In my office this morning, I came across this, and it hits me that this little virus we have lived with since the early 1980s, when it was first described and detected in this country—in this country nobody had died of this little virus, but then 5 people died, 100 died, and now thousands of people in this country have died; and then it killed about 500,000 people, and then a million, and then 5 million, and then 23 million people have died. It is destroying the continent of Africa, where the life expectancy is 33 years of age.

I ask unanimous consent to have the article printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

